



KEY NOTES

e-newsletter of the Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission

April 21, 2011

Legislature authorizes funding for 1812 sites



Three War of 1812 sites will receive funding through bond bills recently approved by the Maryland General Assembly. [Todd's Inheritance](#), a farmstead used as an American courier station during the Battle of North Point, will receive \$175,000. The [Star-Spangled Banner Flag House](#) -- where Mary Pickersgill lived and made the huge American flag (30-ft. by 42-ft.) that flew over Fort McHenry during the Battle of Baltimore -- will receive \$150,000 to be used for site preservation. And, [Anacostia Trails Heritage Area](#) will receive \$125,000 to create a Battle of Bladensburg Visitor Center and Monument. Awards for each project require dollar-for-dollar matching funds.

NPS holds public meetings for SSB Trail



series.

The Park Service encourages comments and suggestions regarding its [proposed trail concepts](#). Comments may be submitted online or sent to: Star-Spangled Banner NHT, National Park Service, 410 Severn Avenue, Annapolis, MD 21403. This review period ends May 15.

The National Park Service is wrapping up a second round of regional public workshops concerning a 20-year plan for developing and managing the [Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail](#) and the Star-Spangled Banner Byway. Meetings were recently held in Bladensburg, Queenstown, Havre de Grace and Baltimore. Stakeholders in Virginia participated through a webinar. An April 21 workshop in Huntingtown concludes the

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Upcoming Events

[Star-Spangled Banner Trail and Scenic Byway Pubic Meeting](#)
April 21, 2011

[Pride of Baltimore II Day Sails](#)
April 21-28, 2011

[Introduction to Baltimore County in the War of 1812](#)
April 30, 2011

[Attack on Havre de Grace War of 1812 Re-enactment](#)
May 7, 2011

1812 license plate named among best by collectors



The [Automobile License Plate Collectors Association](#) voted Maryland's Star-Spangled Banner license plate as one of North America's top three new plates for 2010. Association members selected a dozen plates as nominees for their annual Best Plate Award, which pays tribute to the design of new plates. License plates from New Mexico and Rhode Island were the top two finishers.

Historical Society offers greater access to collections

[Maryland Historical Society's](#) Source Guide to War of 1812 is now available online. The new 26-page guide is an inventory of the Society's library and archival materials related to the War of 1812. Access to the first 100 years of Maryland Historical Magazine, the Society's quarterly publication, is also available. The magazine collection includes an array of articles, book reviews and published primary sources that pertain to the war.

Scorpion search continues in summer

The [search for the Scorpion](#) -- flagship of Joshua Barney's Chesapeake Flotilla during the War of 1812 -- will continue this summer. The State Highway Administration's Cultural Resources Section, along with the U.S. Naval History and Heritage Command and the Maryland Historical Trust's State underwater archeology program, will conduct further examination of a War of 1812 wreck -- thought to be the *Scorpion* -- that was discovered in 1979. Current plans call for an excavation of the ship in 2012. Barney's flotilla delayed the British advance during the war's Chesapeake Campaign. It engaged the British Navy in Maryland's largest naval battle.

JPPM opens new War of 1812 exhibit



[Living American Flag Program](#)

May 10, 2011

[Bountiful Baltimore: Animals and Agriculture in America](#)

May 14, 2011

[Living American Flag Program](#)

May 17, 2011

[Smithsonian Resident Associate Program: The War of 1812: America's Forgotten Conflict](#)

May 19, 2011

Recent News

[Mount Calvert allows visitors to re-imagine War of 1812](#), *Chesapeake Bay Journal*, Apr. 2011

[95 Acre Development Coming to Fort Howard in Dundalk](#), *CityBiz.com*, Apr. 3, 2011

[Historic trail will include Calvert sites](#), *SoMdNews.com*, Mar. 18, 2011

Read more [news](#).

Upcoming Grant Deadlines

May 1, 2010

Maryland Humanities Council
[Opportunity Grants](#)

May 2, 2011

Institute of Museum and Library Services

[Native American Library Services: Enhancement Grants](#)

May 3, 2011

National Endowment for the Humanities

[Preservation Assistance Grants for Smaller Institutions](#)

May 4, 2011

National Endowment for the Humanities

[Challenge Grants](#)

[Jefferson Patterson Park & Museum](#) (JPPM) has opened a new permanent exhibit — *Farmers, Patriots and Traitors: Southern Maryland and the War of 1812*. Historians Ralph Eshelman and Don Shomette arranged the exhibit, which includes a depiction of the role of Joshua Barney and his Chesapeake Flotilla during the Battles of St. Leonard Creek in June 1814. JPPM is located on a peninsula along the Patuxent River in Calvert County, where the battles occurred.

Pencek named to chair SSB National Historic Trail Council

Ken Salazar, secretary, U.S. Department of the Interior, has appointed Bill Pencek to a two-year term as chair of the new [Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail](#) Advisory Council. Pencek is executive director of the Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission. The council, which includes up to 35 members, will consult with Salazar on matters relating to the historic trail, such as rights-of-way, standards for markers, interpretation and administration. Members of the council represent federal departments or agencies that administer lands where the trail passes through; private organizations that have interests in the trail; and Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia.

Fort McHenry's Vietzke takes new NPS role

Gay E. Vietzke, former superintendent at [Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine](#), has a new job as deputy regional director for park operations in the Philadelphia-based Northeast Regional Office of the National Park Service. Among her other duties, she is now the supervisor of Fort McHenry's next superintendent. Vietzke joined the Park Service in 1992. During her tenure at Fort McHenry, a conceptual plan for a new visitor center evolved into the building that officially opened March 3. The Fort McHenry Visitor and Education Center is a 17,000-square-foot facility — triple the size of the previous center — that can accommodate 750,000 visitors a year.

ATHA hires new interpretation director

[Sarah Rogers](#) is the new director of interpretation at the [Anacostia Trails Heritage Area](#). She will be developing and implementing interpretive programs with a particular focus on the Battle of Bladensburg. Previously Sarah served as a consultant to the National Park Service and National Zoo as the interpretive planner and designer.

Featured Site



Sion Hill

Sion Hill, located in Havre de Grace, was the home of Commodore John Rodgers, a War of 1812 naval hero. The property is now a private residence. Paddlers can view the home from where the Susquehanna River meets the Chesapeake Bay. Rodgers Bastion, a fortification at Hampstead Hill (now Patterson Park) in Baltimore, was named for Rodgers.

May 19, 2011

National Endowment for the Humanities

[Preservation and Access Research and Development](#)

Links



[Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission](#)



[Star-Spangled 200, Inc.](#)



[Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail](#)



[Baltimore National Heritage Area](#)

[Eastern Shore 1812 Consortium](#)

[Historic Prince George's](#)

[Battle of Bladensburg](#)

Havre de Grace, MD
(Harford County)

Key Notes is the monthly e-newsletter of the Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission. Send information about your bicentennial planning efforts to [Kate Marks](#) for inclusion in future issues.

PDF files of previous issues of *Key Notes* are available on the Commission's [web site](#).

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